

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03  
INR-05 DODE-00 PRS-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 OMB-01 /039 W  
-----080045Z 101203 /70

R 070847Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1220  
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T AMMAN 2015

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, PLO, XF

SUBJECT: TALK WITH ROYAL COURT CHIEF - WEST BANK AND PLO.

1. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION EVENING OF APRIL 6, ROYAL COURT CHIEF INDICATED THAT JORDANIANS WERE STUDYING REQUESTS FROM WEST BANK MUNICIPALITIES FOR AID. JORDAN WAS SO STRAPPED FINANCIALLY THAT VERY LITTLE AID COULD BE OR WOULD BE EXPENDED. MAXIMUM THAT COULD BE DONE WOULD BE FOREGIVENESS OF SOME WEST BANK MUNICIPAL DEBTS DUE TO JORDAN.

2. SHARAF SAID THAT WEST BANKERS HAD PRESENTED REQUIREMENTS FOR LOANS AND GRANTS AMOUNTING TO 9 MILLION JORDANIAN DINARS (ABOUT \$27M US). JORDAN COULD COME NOWHERE NEAR MEETING THIS REQUIREMENT DUE TO THE HEAVY DEFICITS NOW BEING EXPERIENCED IN ITS NATIONAL BUDGET. KING HUSSEIN WAS DETERMINED TO TRY TO HELP THE WEST BANK BUT HE COULD NOT CREATE MONEY WHERE NONE EXISTED.

3. SHARAF EMPHASIZED THAT JORDAN FELT IT STILL HAD GOOD AND STRONG TIES TO THE WEST BANK AND THAT THESE TIES WOULD SURVIVE INTO THE FUTURE. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT SOME OF THE GULF

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STATES HAD INDICATED AN INTEREST IN AND MIGHT EVEN NOW BE HELPING FINANCIALLY CERTAIN WEST BANK MUNICIPALITIES. HE THOUGHT PLO WOULD TRY TO CLAIM CREDIT FOR THIS ACTION. ON THE WHOLE, HE ADDED, HE THOUGHT THE PLO WOULD HANG ON TO ITS OWN MONEY IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT ITS LEADERS AND OTHERS HAVE SUFFICIENT WHEREWITHAL TO LIVE AND CARRY OUT THEIR OWN OBJECTIVES. HE DID ADMIT HOWEVER THAT IF PLO AND GULF STATES WERE TO GET

TOGETHER ON A PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE TO WEST BANKERS IT COULD  
MAKE SOME INROADS IN JORDANIAN SUPPORT ON THE WEST BANKS,  
INROADS WHICH GOJ COULD NOT TURN AROUND BECAUSE OF ITS PRESENT  
LACK OF FUNDS.

4. SHARAF SAID THAT THE PLO-JORDANIAN DIALOGUE WAS NOT MOVING  
VERY FAR. HE KNEW THAT THE PLO HAD SOME PLANS TO CONTINUE ITS  
MEETINGS WITH JORDAN, BUT THAT THE PLO WAS NOT READY TO DISCUSS  
LINKS WITH JORDAN BEFORE IT ACHIEVED INDEPENDENT STATEHOOD.  
JORDAN HAD SUGGESTED THE PLO STUDY A JORDANIAN PAPER ON THE  
MARCH 1972 UNITED ARAB KINGDOM PLAN WHICH PLO HAD PREVIOUSLY  
REJECTED, AND THEN COME BACK AND TALK. HE BELIEVED THERE  
WAS NO ENTHUSIASM IN PLO FOR A DIALOGUE ON THAT POINT; PLO  
WANTED TO MOVE ITS FORCES BACK INTO JORDAN AND BEGIN AGAIN  
POLITICAL WORK AMONG PALESTINIANS IN THE EAST BANK. HE ADDED  
"WE WILL OF COURSE NEVER PERMIT THAT TO HAPPEN".  
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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